Rehoboth March 25. 1776 –

The Hon. John Hancock Esqr.

Dear Sir,

I suppose before this will reach you, that you will have received a full account of the disgraceful retreat of the Troops from dear Boston – I congratulate you on the Event, and also that your domestic Affairs are left in good Order. Our friend Nich. Boney has escaped without the loss of a quill – I was in Boston last Tuesday, the Town appears much better than I expected to see it, yet the Villians have done great damage. I wrote you the 6th. Inst. in which I inclosed you E Jones Account current and informed you that he had paid me the Ballance. I have lately received 800 Dollars, which together with the above I shall forward as soon as possible. I also informed you of my intention to move to Groton, but the deliverance of Boston will alter my plan, and I have already released my farm and hope to return to Boston in about a month. I received yours of the 6th. instant yesterday. The whole that I said in the Letter you referr to, arose from this cause only – I could not bear the reflection that I had given you, Sir, reason to think that I am regardless of the obligations I am under to you. I wrote to Col. Athearn this morning. I told you, sir, when I see you at Worcester that I was intirely at your service and should be happy to be employed

Employed by you, I am now ready to go to Dartmouth
Martha's Vineyard, and any, or every where else that you
may want on your Business — I will not engage in any w[ay]
whatever if I can be of service to you in the settling your
Accounts and collecting your dues. Dear Sir, my heart
has indeed often bled for you on account of your troubles
as I knew they all proceeded from virtue, but I hope,
I more than hope, I think I see the dawning of a bright
and joyful day, that will return you sevenfold for all
your sufferings into your own bosom — which may God
grant to be the case, and that speedily — Mrs Barr joins
me in the most respectful Regards to your Lady & Self, &
grant me the freedom further to subscribe myself with
the greatest sincerity,

Your ever Obliged and
most ready & Obedient
humble Servant
William Barr.

RW 317 (1)

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Rev 317(2)

To

The Hon:ble John Hancock Esqr

In

Philadelphia

℘ post

ch. F. 2.18

William Bond
letter March 25. 1776